

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Michio TANIMOTO

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group:

Filed: Concurrently

Examiner:

FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ACRYLIC ACID AND ACRYLIC ACID

Date: February 7, 2001

The Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the herewith filed application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or 2".

Please add the following new claim:

--4. A process according to claim 2, in which a starting gas whose propylene concentration is at least 9 volume % is introduced.--

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments prior to examination

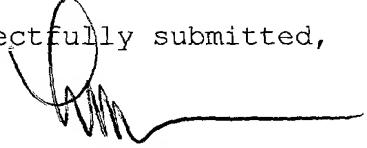
of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.

Claims 3 has been amended, and new claim 4 has been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-4 are pending in this application.

Claim 3 has been amended to delete the multiple dependency and new claim 4 corresponds to the multiple dependency of claim 3 rewritten in single dependent form.

No new matter has been added and applicant respectfully submits that this application is in condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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